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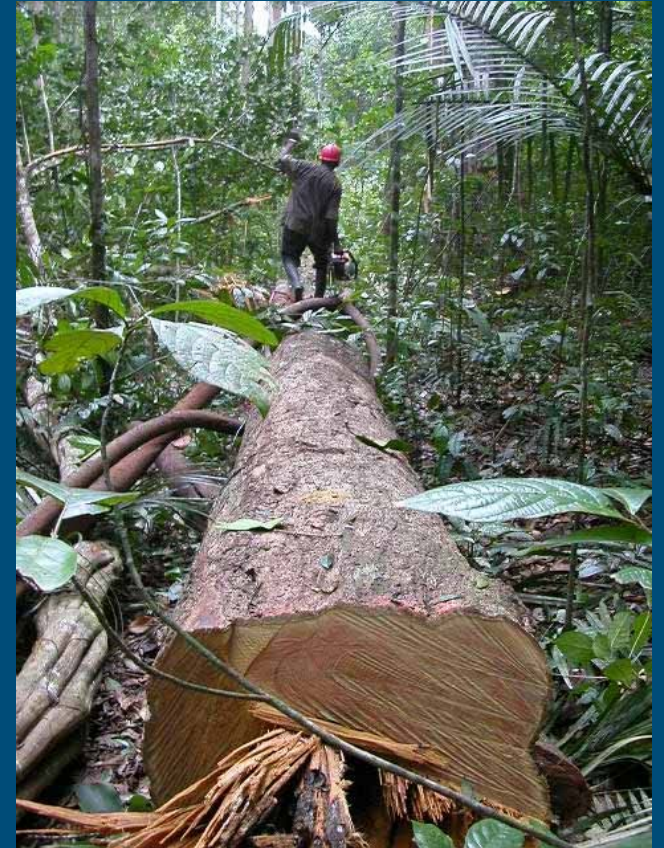
Stichting **Erkend Groen**

# Capacity Building in Forest Certification

Experiences in Network Facilitation in Ghana, Kenya  
and Suriname

# Joint EC-BMZ-DFID project 'inter-institutional development of training capacity in Forest Certification'.

- Executed by GTZ and IAC
- In 77 ACP countries
- 2000 – 2003
- E-survey on status of forest certification



# Project strategy

- Change from technology transfer towards Capacity Building
- Demand-driven
- Integration into on-going national and sub-regional processes

Justification:

Diversity in local contexts

Ownership of the certification process by local stakeholders

# Methodology

- Selection of core countries for capacity building
- Development of regional/national capacity building strategies
- Creation of information networks
- Appointment of focal point organisations to coordinate the implementation of the strategies (i.e. workshops, training activities, production of promotion material)

# Experiences

- According the project document, FSC is the most pertinent scheme from a sustainable development perspective
- Ghana: possibly from FSC to ATO
- East Africa: no decision made yet, discussion not focused
- Suriname: no decision made yet
- Ready to use presentation material strong focus on FSC: of little use in situations where decision is not made yet

## Subject 1 for debate

Can development projects serve as neutral catalysts in the promotion of forest certification in a specific country or region, as most donors have connections with one of the current forest certification schemes?

## Subject 2. for debate

Network must be equipped with conflict resolution tools.

A simple information network structure is not always sufficient, especially in countries with a considerable timber export market and where interests of different stakes can be conflicting.

# Subject 1 for debate

Ownership of the process by local stakeholders requires an openness to approaching certification from different perspectives without promoting one particular scheme.



## Experiences

In all countries, the appointment of a focal point organisation asked for a lot of discussion. NWG's were not established or active.

- Private sector would be logical choice for developing a market based tool
- Private sector was not enough represented in workshops (Ghana, Kenya)
- Changing role of state forest department from traditional leading role (control and law enforcement ) into stakeholder role
- Consultancy firm or international NGO (Kenya)
- Training and research institute?

## Subject 2. for debate

The network structure should have an initiating and leading organisation (focal point) with financial means and human capacity, which is able to guide a multi-stakeholder process such as forest certification.

The focal point is mandated by all stakeholder groups to fulfill this role.